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e. "The question of capitalization of specific names has given me much concern, and I should be very glad were it possible to reach some practice which would be acceptable to *all* zoologists and botanists. At the present moment no less than three rules are in use by botanists. Personally I see no good reason for capitalizing any specific names and my preference is decidedly in favor of following the practice of the zoologists. Some botanists consistently adhere to the rule of *no* capitals and they are right. In adopting this rule, you would make the *Naturalist* the exponent of a uniform practice for all biologists, and would, I feel sure, gain the support of many botanists."

F. T. L.

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## ANTHROPOLOGY

**Handbook of American Indians North of Mexico.**<sup>1</sup>—The volume at hand is the first of the two parts of a most important and generally useful work, dealing with the North American Indian and prepared under the auspices of the Bureau of American Ethnology. The work is an encyclopedia of the Indian, dealing in alphabetical order, with every phase of his life as well as with his anatomical, physiological, and indirectly also with his mental characteristics. Preparations for this publication have been carried on since 1873, and since 1902 the task has been in the hands of a special editor. The second volume will probably appear in the course of the coming winter.

The work is the result of contributions of forty-six authors, specialists in various branches of anthropology throughout this country. Every article in it has not only been carefully supervised by the able official editor of the book, Mr. Hodge, but has also been sent for reading and suggestions to all the contributors. Moreover, there were held at the Bureau of American Ethnology, under the chairmanship of Professor W. H. Holmes, for many months, regular meetings three times a week, to which all the authors were invited, and where all the more important papers were read and freely discussed. The result, great credit for which is due to Professor Holmes, the Chief of

<sup>1</sup> Hodge, Frederick W., *editor*. *Handbook of American Indians north of Mexico*. Part 1. *Bur. of Amer. Ethn.*, bull. 30, Washington, 1907. 972 pp., with a map and numerous illustrations.

the Bureau of Ethnology, besides to the editor, is a compilation of brief but comprehensive, simply worded and well illustrated, authoritative articles, which represent the substance of our actual knowledge of the Indian. A further perfection and possibly extension of the subject matter will be attended to in future editions.

The work will prove in general a satisfactory reference book on the North American aborigines, and a valuable handbook on the subject in higher schools and colleges. It has, with its other merits, the distinction of being the first work of its nature in existence. The bibliography, though mostly restricted to synonymy, according to the original plans of the work, is nevertheless ample and will facilitate the researches of special students.

Among the authors contributing to this work are Miss Fletcher, Chamberlain, Fewkes, Kroeber, Gatschet, Cyrus, Thomas, Hewett, Boas, Cushing, Colville, Hodge, Hrdlicka, Hough, Dorsey, Mason, McGuire, Mooney, Swanton, Dixon, Culin, Matthews, Hewitt, Grinnell, Henshaw and others.

Among the individual articles may be mentioned Abnaki, Acoma, Adoption, Adornment, Agency System, Agriculture, Anatomy, Antiquity, Architecture, Arrows, Bows & Quivers, Art, Atlantis, Axes, etc.

The first volume embraces the letters A to M inclusive.

A. HRDLÍČKA.

**Games of the North American Indians.**—In a large volume<sup>1</sup> Stewart Culin presents “a classified and illustrated list of practically all the American Indian gaming implements in American and European museums, together with a more or less exhaustive summary of the entire literature of the subject.” The many amusements of Indian children, such as “tag,” which are played without implements are not within the scope of his compilation, and dolls are not included. None of the games described as Indian were imported into America; on the other hand “we have taken their lacrosse in the north, and racket in the south, and the Mexicans on the Rio Grande play all the old Indian games under Spanish names.” Certain games, however, strikingly resemble those of the Europeans, and with various modifications the same game is played throughout the continent, by tribes belonging to unrelated linguistic stocks.

<sup>1</sup> Culin, Stewart. *Games of the North American Indians*. *Bur. of Amer. Ethn.*, 24th Ann. Rep., Washington, 1907. pp. 1-846, 1112 figs., 21 pls.